



**A Political Discussion on the Road to the COP21:**

## **FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES, WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE FOR A SUCCESSFUL CLIMATE CONFERENCE IN PARIS 2015?**

**Thursday, 26 March 2015, from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM (PDT)  
SFU Asia Pac Hall, Wosk Centre for Dialogue, 580 W Hastings St, Vancouver,  
BC V6B 1L6**

You're invited to join the French Consulate General in Vancouver, Carbon Talks, and the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions for a free public dialogue.

The December 2015 Conference of the Parties (COP21) will be one of the most important international climate conferences ever. The stakes are high: with new evidence that we will surpass the global 2C temperature increase targets, COP21 represents our best hope for a binding agreement between countries. This Conference could set the conditions for a transition towards resilient, low-carbon societies and economies.

This Conference needs to mark a decisive step forward in the negotiation of the future international agreement that will enter into force in 2020, adopting its major thrusts with the aim that all countries, including the greatest greenhouse gas emitters – both developed and developing countries – should be bound for the first time by a universal climate agreement

On the road to the COP21, French Ameri-Can Climate TalkS program from the French Embassy in Canada and the French Embassy in the USA, the French Consulate General in Vancouver, Carbon Talks and the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions will organize an exclusive panel discussion at SFU on March, 26th with:

- **Hon. MARY POLAK**, B.C. Minister of Environment
- **GREGOR ROBERTSON**, Mayor of Vancouver
- **NICOLAS CHAPUIS**, Newly appointed Ambassador of France to Canada

**MICHAEL SMALL**, Carbon Talks and Renewable Cities Executive Director will moderate the panel.

This free public talk and discussion will engage the public to reflect on this fundamental question: "**From Local to Global Challenges, What Needs to Be Done for a Successful Climate Conference in Paris 2015?**".

**FREE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED on [EVENTBRITE.CA](http://EVENTBRITE.CA)**



Pacific Institute  
for Climate Solutions  
Knowledge. Insight. Action.



## PANELISTS

### Hon. MARY POLAK

B.C. Minister of Environment



Mary Polak was re-elected to the B.C. legislature in 2013, having represented the constituents of Langley since 2005. She was appointed Minister of Environment June 10, 2013.

Prior to her new cabinet post, she served as the Minister Transportation and Infrastructure, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, Minister of Children and Family Development and Minister Responsible for Child Care, Minister of Healthy Living and Sport, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health for the Conversation on Health.

Before being elected to the legislative assembly, Polak served as a trustee and former chair of the Surrey school board.

### GREGOR ROBERTSON

Mayor of Vancouver



In November 2014, Gregor Robertson was elected to a third term as Mayor of Vancouver. He was re-elected to continue building upon the accomplishments of his first six years in office: Working to end street homelessness, Addressing housing affordability, Improving public transit, Making Vancouver the greenest city in the world.

#### **Urban issues**

Mayor Robertson is also a national advocate for urban issues as Chair of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Big City Mayors' Caucus, focusing on public infrastructure, housing, and transit.

#### **A sustainable and thriving economy**

Mayor Robertson spearheaded the creation of the city's first comprehensive Economic Action Strategy, and is committed to growing a sustainable and thriving economy in Vancouver focused on high-growth sectors like digital media, clean technology, and renewable energy.

#### **Green Capital**

Building on the successful legacy of the 2010 Winter Olympics, which has generated over \$350 million in economic impact and created more than 3,000 new jobs in the Metro Vancouver region, Mayor Robertson has established Vancouver internationally as the Green Capital — a city where going green is good for business.

He has also overseen the creation and implementation of the award-winning Greenest City 2020 Action Plan that aims to make Vancouver an environmental leader in everything from energy efficiency and waste reduction to clean air and local food.

### **Award-winning city**

Under Mayor Robertson's leadership, Vancouver continues to rank as one of the most liveable cities in the world, with one of the most competitive environments for attracting new jobs and investment. The City of Vancouver has also been named the Most Innovative Organization in the province by BC Business Magazine for its open data initiative.

### **Housing a top priority**

Mayor Robertson has made affordable house a top priority, with an aggressive, ten-year plan to provide thousands of affordable housing units for Vancouverites of all ages, while ensuring that existing affordable housing is protected. As Mayor, he has overseen significant progress towards the goal of ending street homelessness by 2015, by opening new homeless shelters while leveraging significant investments in new social housing throughout the city.

### **Before entering politics**

Prior to entering politics, Gregor co-founded Happy Planet, a Vancouver-based socially responsible company that produces organic juices and promotes health and nutrition.

Gregor and his wife Amy have four children: Terra, Satchel, Jinagh and Johanna. He is an avid soccer and hockey fan, and can occasionally be seen around town playing his tuba or drums.

### **Appointments to advisory boards and committees**

- Hastings Institute Board
- Vancouver Economic Development Commission
- Vancouver Economic Development Corporation
- Harbour Park Developments Ltd

### **Appointments to regional bodies**

- Director, Great Vancouver Regional District (Metro Vancouver)

## **NICOLAS CHAPUIS**

### **Ambassador of France to Canada**



Nicolas Chapuis is the newly appointed Ambassador of France to Canada.

From Asia to Canada, Mr. Nicolas Chapuis is a professional diplomat and a digital innovator. After earning undergraduate degrees in both Mongol Studies and History and two advanced diplomas in Chinese Studies, Mr. Chapuis was recruited by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) in September 1980 to be the Press Attaché at the French Embassy in Beijing.

Two years later, Mr. Chapuis passed the state examination for French Diplomats with an East Asia major, and thus occupied a range of posts within the MFA and a number of French embassies around the world, particularly in Asia. Over the course of his career, he has held posts in Boston, Singapore, Shanghai, Beijing, and London. His first ambassadorship was in Mongolia (2003-2005) where he opened the French Embassy in Ulan Bator. He was also Prefect of the Département des Hautes-Alpes between 2009 and 2010. As the French MFA Chief Information Officer, a position he held between 2011 and January 2015, he implemented the first professional social network within the diplomatic corps, replacing the traditional cable system. As of February 4th, 2015, Mr. Chapuis is the new Ambassador of France to Canada, succeeding Mr. Philippe Zeller (2011-2015).

## MODERATOR

### MICHAEL SMALL

Carbon Talks and Renewable Cities Executive Director



Michael Small joined Renewable Cities on January 1, 2015 after a thirty-three year career as a diplomat and senior executive in the Canadian foreign service.

Immediately prior to coming to Vancouver, Michael was Canada's High Commissioner to Australia from September 2010 until December 2014. Before that, he served in Ottawa as Assistant Deputy Minister, Human Resources and Assistant Deputy Minister, Global Issues, in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. In the latter capacity, he co-ordinated Canada's representation

across a wide range of multilateral fora, including the G8, the United Nations, the Commonwealth, La Francophonie and the Arctic Council. From 2000-2003 he was Canada's Ambassador to Cuba. Earlier in his career, Michael was posted to Mexico, Costa Rica, Brazil and Malaysia.

Michael has had a life-long interest in the international policy issues around sustainable development. He became very involved in the issues around tropical deforestation in Brazil when he lived there in the late 1980s. He was one of the founders of the Brazilian Agro-Forestry Network, and then served for two years as the Co-ordinator for the Canadian delegation to the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. More recently, he has worked on climate change issues as Canada's communiqué negotiator for the 2007 and 2008 G8 Summits. He also has extensive experience in designing dialogues that bridge different communities of expertise.

Michael Small earned an A.B. in Politics from Princeton University in 1978; a M.A. in Political Science from the University of Toronto in 1980; and a M.Phil in Social Anthropology from Cambridge University in 1981. From 2003-2004 he was a Fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University. He is also author of "The Forgotten Peace: Mediation at Niagara Falls, 1914", published by the University of Ottawa Press in 2009.